GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
COMMUNICATIONS AND INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY
LOK SABHA

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:4481
ANSWERED ON:18.12.2002
TELEPHONE SUBSCRIBERS
THAAWAR CHAND GEHLOT

Will the Minister of COMMUNICATIONS AND INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY be pleased to state:

(a) the number of telephone subscribers in the country in the year 1991 and as on 31 October 2002, State-wise; and

(b) the rentals prevalent in the country as on October, 2002, State- wise?

Answer

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF COMMUNICATIONS AND INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY (SHRIMATI S MAHAJAN)

(a) The number of telephone subscribers in the country state-wise in the year 1991 and as on 31st October, 2002, is given in the Annexure.

(b) As per Telecom Regulatory Authority of India (TRAI) Act 1997,as amended by TRAI (Amendment) Act,2000 the power of fixing tariff for telecom. services is now mandated to the Telecom Regulatory Authority of India only. However , the service providers, including the Government Public Sector Unitsare at liberty to offer alternative tariff options along with the standard Tariff Package prescribed by TRAI within the floors and ceilings fixed by TRAI.

Bharat Sanchar Nigam Limited (BSNL) has fixed uniform rentals in all the telecom circles for its Basic telephony including Wireless in Local Loop (Fixed Phones) Services as under:

MONTHLY RENTAL CHARGES (AS ON 31.10.2002) IN BSNL

Exchange system capacity	Urban subscribers	Rural subscribers
Exchange system capacity of less than 1,000 lines	Rs.120	Rs.50
Exchange system capacity of 1,000 lines and above but below 30,000 lines	Rs.120	Rs.110
Exchange system capacity of 30,000 lines and above but below 1,00,000 lines	Rs.180	Rs.150
Exchange system capacity of 1,00,000 lines and above	Rs.250	Rs.210

Mahanagar Telephone Nigam Limited(MTNL) has fixed Rs.250/- per month rental for its basic telephony.

ANNEXURE

NUMBER OF TELEPHONE SUBSCRIBERS IN THE COUNTRY

S.No	Name of State/Union Territory	AS ON 31.10.2002(See Note 2)	AS ON 31.03.1991
1	Andman & Nicobar	34828	(See Note 1)
2	Andhra Pradesh	4057662	340241
3	Assam	500289	40638
4	Bihar	1012757	108756
5	Jharkhand	411800	
6	Gujarat $$	3582825	450799
7	Haryana	1205610	113937
8	Himachal	486811	33636
9	J&K	243698	28803
10	Karnataka	3253949	332253
11	Kerala ++	3279536	260261
12	Madhya Pradesh	1688062	209860
13	Chhattisgarh	279515	
14	Maharashtra @	8477681	735542
15	North East #	314335	26951
16	Orissa	752424	70410
17	Punjab $	2685228	208294
18	Rajasthan	1841282	154893
19	Tamilnadu +++	4728912	460928
20	Uttar Pradesh	3299901	329301
21	Uttaranchal	330088	
22	West Bengal	2861665	90034
23	Delhi	3631556	520562
	Total	4,89,60,414	50,77,099

$$ Gujarat includes the Union Territories of (1) Dadra & Nagar Haveli and (2) Daman & Diu
++ Kerala includes the Union Territory of Lakshdweep Islands
@ Maharashtra includes the State of Goa
# North East includes the States of (1) Meghalaya, (2) Mizoram, (3)Tripura, (4) Arunachal Pradesh, (5) Manipur and (6) Nagaland
$ Punjab includes the Union Territory of Chandigarh
+++ Tamil Nadu includes the Union Territory of Pondicherry

West Bengal includes the State of Sikkim.

NOTE: (1) In 1991, the figures of Union Territory of Andaman & Nicobar is included in West Bengal
(2) This is Total Nos. of Subscribers in the Country and includes Fixed, WLL and Cellular Subscribers.